

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 59th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

#### **COMMITTEE ON TAXATION**

**Call to Order:** By **CHAIRMAN KARL WAITSCHIES**, on February 11, 2005  
at 8:00 A.M., in Room 152 Capitol.

#### **ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Rep. Karl Waitschies, Chairman (R)  
Rep. Gary Branae, Vice Chairman (D)  
Rep. Bob Lake, Vice Chairman (R)  
Rep. John Balyeat (R)  
Rep. Norma Bixby (D)  
Rep. Margaret H. Campbell (D)  
Rep. Jill Cohenour (D)  
Rep. Tom Facey (D)  
Rep. Wanda Grinde (D)  
Rep. George G. Groesbeck (D)  
Rep. Carol Lambert (R)  
Rep. Jim Peterson (R)  
Rep. John (Jack) W. Ross (R)  
Rep. Scott Sales (R)  
Rep. Bill Warden (R)  
Rep. Brady Wiseman (D)

**Members Excused:** Rep. Edward B. Butcher (R)  
Rep. Dennis Himmelberger (R)

**Members Absent:** Rep. Dave McAlpin (D)  
Rep. Holly Raser (D)

**Staff Present:** Jeff Martin, Legislative Branch  
Debra Polhemus, Committee Secretary

**Audio Committees:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 485, 2/8/2005; HB 572, 2/8/2005;  
HB 576, 2/8/2005  
Executive Action: HB 576

**HEARING ON HB 572**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:01:08 REP. SCOTT SALES (R), HD 68, opened the hearing on  
HB 572, Compensation for laws restricting use of  
and devaluing land.

**Proponents' Testimony:** None.

**Opponents' Testimony:**

00:03:45 Chris Tweeten, Chief Civil Counsel, speaking for  
Attorney General McGrath  
00:07:53 L. Harold Blattie, Montana Association of Counties  
00:11:03 Linda Stoll, Montana Association of Planners  
00:13:14 Tim Davis, Montana Smart Growth Coalition

**Informational Testimony:**

00:15:34 Tim Reardon, Attorney, Montana Department of  
Transportation

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:19:47 REP. COHENOUR

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:20:35 REP. SCOTT SALES (R), HD 68 closed the hearing on  
HB 572.

00:26:33 Break  
01:02:34 Resume

**HEARING ON HB 485**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

01:03:00 REP. DENNIS HIMMELBERGER (R), HD 47, opened the  
hearing on HB 485, Extend income tax exemption for  
military duty.

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**Proponents' Testimony:**

01:05:42 Roger Hagen, Enlisted and Officer Associations of  
National Guard of Montana  
01:14:42 Ruth Mortag, Past-President, Enlisted Association  
of Montana National Guard

**EXHIBIT (tah34a01)**

01:19:01 Angela Laden, Enlisted National Guard of Montana  
01:20:41 Colonel Jim Jacobsen, United States Army  
(Retired), American Legion

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**Opponents' Testimony:** None.

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**Informational Testimony:**

01:23:50 Holly Franz, Montana Society of CPA's  
01:25:04 Jim McKeon, Montana Department of Revenue

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**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:25:24 **REP. ROSS**  
01:29:55 **REP. BUTCHER**  
01:34:46 **REP. SALES**  
01:35:17 **REP. WARDEN**  
01:35:51 **REP. COHENOUR**

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**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:19:01 **REP. DENNIS HIMMELBERGER (R), HD 47** closed the  
hearing on HB 485.

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**HEARING ON HB 576**

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**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

01:38:27 **REP. JIM KEANE (D), HD 75**, opened the hearing on  
**HB 576**, Eliminate canola and malting barley  
facility property tax exemption.

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**Proponents' Testimony:** None.

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**Opponents' Testimony:**

01:39:18 Ronda Wiggers, Great Falls Area Chamber of  
Commerce  
01:39:59 Dick King, Missoula Area Economic Development  
01:40:50 John Stoner, Farmer, Havre, VP Montana grain  
Growers

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**Informational Testimony:**

01:41:19 Dolores Cooney, Montana Department of Revenue

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:41:37 REP. LAKE  
01:42:06 REP. BUTCHER  
01:44:14 REP. FACEY

Closing by Sponsor:

01:45:09 REP. JIM KEANE (D), HD 75 closed the hearing on HB 576.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 576

01:45:36 Motion/Vote: REP. LAMBERT moved that HB 576 BE TABLED. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote with REPS. WISEMAN, RASER and McALPIN voting by proxy.

01:46:36

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 10:00 A.M.

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REP. KARL WAITSCHIES, Chairman

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DEBRA POLHEMUS, Secretary

KW/dp

Additional Exhibits:

**EXHIBIT ([tah34aad0.PDF](#))**